

## **Gil Scott-Heron**

# **"On Coming From A Broken Home"**

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I want to make this a special tribute  
To a family that contradicts the concepts  
Heard the rules but wouldn't accept  
And women-folk raised me  
And I was full grown before I knew  
I came from a broken home

Sent to live with my grandma down south  
When my uncles was leaving  
And my grandfather had just left for heaven  
They said and as every-ologist would certainly note  
I had no strong male figure right?  
But Lily Scott was absolutely not your mail order  
Room service type cast black grandmother  
I was moved in with her; temporarily, just until things  
were patched,  
Til this was patched and til that was patched  
Until I became at 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10  
The patch that held Lily Scott who held me and like  
them 4  
I become one more and I loved her  
From the absolute marrow of my bones  
And we was holdin on,  
I come from a broken home  
She had more then the 5 senses  
She knew more then books could teach  
And raised everyone she touched just a little bit higher  
And all around her there was a natural sense  
As though she sensed what the stars say what the birds  
say  
What the wind and the clouds say  
A sensual soul and self that African sense  
And she raised me like she raised 4 of her own  
And I was hurt and scared and shocked  
When Lily Scott left suddenly one night  
And they sent a limousine from heaven to take her to  
god,  
If there is one.  
So I knew she had gone; and  
I came from a broken home

